

THE WASHINGTON HERALD

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FRIDAY, MAY 3, 1907. Germany and Disarmament. Chancellor von Buelow's statement to the Reichstag that Germany will take no part in the discussion at the coming Hague Conference of the limitation or reduction of armaments may be taken as proof that the imperial government has not advanced one step beyond its attitude on the same subject at the first conference.

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It was not to be. There he is, down and out; a hero that was, and a champion with broken and shattered lance. It is sad to thus lay bare the fatal shortcomings of this man of whom we have so oft soared aloft in rhetorical grandeur and illuminating English. But duty to a trusting and confiding constituency demands that we tell the truth.

Market Item: The stubbornly bearish attitude of Messrs. Frost, Boreas & Co. is believed to have crowded the well-known firm of Sunshine & Roses almost to the verge of bankruptcy.

A Word or Two of Reproof. We are very much obliged to the Advertiser of American Journalism, the Charleston News and Courier, for its compliments, but we are impelled by a sense of duty to improve it for throwing bricks at Andy Jackson. Some days ago The Herald, which knows its history, says the News and Courier, "spoke of Andrew Jackson as a South Carolinian by birth. The Norfolk Landmark, with that independence of initiative which distinguishes so often the work of the ill-informed, assumed to correct the statement of The Herald by substituting North Carolina for South Carolina. There has not been a controversy about this point since it is the intentionally obtuse who longer claim that Andrew Jackson was born in North Carolina. It might have been better for the country and good politics if he had never been born, but there is no mistaking the fact that he was a native of South Carolina."

Alas and a-lack-a-day! Will South Carolina never forget and forgive? It has been seventy-five years since Old Hickory got after Calhoun and Hamilton and Hayne—and made them behave, but the feud is still on. Their children's children's children, as represented by our old Bourbon friend, the News and Courier, are sighing and saying that "it might have been better for the country and good politics if he had never been born." Do we hear such mutterings as these against George Washington among the descendants in Western Pennsylvania of the refractory folk whom Washington lashed back into the Union after they had organized their white rebellion?

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government. "All corporations that do business not with New Jersey alone," he remarks, "but with the whole American people, should be controlled by laws passed, not by the legislature of New Jersey or Delaware, but by the Congress of the whole American people." For the present, he admits, this is impossible, though he is of opinion that a national incorporation law could be passed with respect to railroads doing an interstate business. He would thus make "railroads that do a nation-wide business incorporate under nation-wide laws." He fears that Mr. Bryan's Federal license plan is not feasible as to other corporations, but if it is, he is willing to have it tried as a preliminary to a national incorporation law.

We gather from this brief summary of the true remedies of the Readers' disputants that the chief point of difference between them, so far, at least, as the present is concerned, relates to the purpose rather than the nature and scope of national legislation. Both would make use of the Federal power to the utmost consistent with any reasonable construction of the all-inclusive interstate commerce clause of the Constitution, but while Mr. Bryan would seek the "dissolution and prevention" of monopoly, Mr. Beveridge would attempt its regulation and control. The latter would be inclined to favor the nationalization of power in the Federal government; Mr. Bryan's as well as much concession to State rights as possible; Mr. Beveridge's with as little as is necessary. The Federal government, in the opinion of both debaters, is alone powerful enough either to regulate or to destroy the great organizations of capital by which our trade, industry, and transportation are so largely carried on.

The idea that Mr. Roosevelt would be elected President for life originated in Boston. Shades of our honorable ancestors who gave that famous "Boston tea party!"

The Paymaster General of the navy has instituted some improvements in the system of bidding for government contracts under the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, and in other transactions between business firms and the branch of the Navy Department which has to do with the acquisition of naval supplies. There is no branch of the government which is conducted on more businesslike lines than the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts of the Navy Department, and it is gratifying to know that the principles of commercial celerity and enterprise are continuing, to the steady improvement of the system.

It is also proposed to overhaul the method of inspection of material delivered under contract at navy yards. This is a step which remains to be taken in the system of purchasing naval supplies, and it will pay to give particular attention to the whole method from beginning to the end, that there may be a competent, impartial, and thorough inspection of material, not only for the protection of the government against the acceptance of inferior articles, but that worthy bidders may be assured that their crooked rivals are not able to get the inspectors to pass material which does not come up to the specifications.

A Pennsylvania negro has been sentenced to one year in prison for carrying a razor. The negro doesn't enjoy many rights north of Mason and Dixon's line that he doesn't enjoy fully, if not more so, south of the same.

Montenegro threatens to pull off a revolution, though it is doubtful that there is room enough in the country to make a good, all round job of it.

"Prescott wmb wmb wmb Uj hmb!" says the Portland Oregonian. Perhaps Prescott is that real Democrat for whom the New York World has been vainly searching these many days.

An American heiress has gone abroad in order to "escape fortune hunters." This will be good news to the fortune hunters who are unable to get over to this side.

A New York policeman leveled his pistol at a would-be suicide the other day, and told him he would be shot dead if he did not at once drop the pistol with which he was threatening himself; whereupon the would-be suicide dropped like a flash. Self-protection is the first law of nature.

"Caruso has quit the land of Yankee Doodle," notes a contemporary. It is to be hoped that he has also quit the ways of monkey-doodle.

An eight-year-old Pennsylvania boy has been arrested for robbing a post-office. They begin early in Pennsylvania, though they generally display more shrewdness about getting caught.

The Memphis Commercial-Appeal is mistaken. It will not be "a Jesse James story Exposition." Though, of course, one may expect to be "held up," more or less, on the Warpath.

A former Kansas is said to be slated for Mr. Loeb's office, in case that gentleman accepts his rumored promotion. Kansas, as a rule, do not mind having the blame for curious and unusual ideas thrust upon them.

"Denver wants both conventions next year," says the Punksatway Spirit. Here is a fine opportunity for some statesman to finish up the Graves suggestion by advocating a joint convention of Republicans and Democrats.

The Department of Agriculture advises farmers not to kill skunks. To a farmer who has once essayed the task, the advice is probably entirely superfluous.

The Savannah News thinks "we are shy on poets." Most of us certainly say at poets.

As to "undesirable citizens," The candidates of the opposition party are always to be classed as such.

Perhaps those Egyptian camels were all named Roosevelt because the camel is such a notoriously rough rider.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

Well, gentle spring is here With violets blue. And lots of vernal cheer, And—alack-who!

The thinking raindrops fall Upon the roof. What thoughts do they recall Of—alack-who!

The love-lit blooms adorn Each bush and shrub. How sweet to stroll at morn Among—gubbi-who!

I love the gentle spring, The woodland mold. But what a beastly thing To have a cold!

Washington Items. Spring is behaving better. Joe Foraker has got his corn planted. George Cortelyou Thursday at Wall Street Junction.

"Uncle Tom's" Cabin at Town Hall tonight. Eight Little Evas and four Uncle Toms.

Bill Taft killed a snake yesterday with eighteen rattles and a teaching ring. There's a snake talk of Bill Leeb outting his job.

James K. Jones won the hog-guessing contest. Jim is not usually such a good estimator.

Ed Harriman was in town Tuesday trying to trade two coonskins for a pot of lard. Tainted coonskins!

A Wonderment. I wonder whether a suit of hair or wool Adorns that mystic brute, The Irish bull?

The Result. "To-day I met an irresistible body." "What happened?" "I followed her for twenty blocks."

Good Jobs. "Well, all nature is smiling." "Ever the April we had to stand for, hey?"

The Wherefore. "He's a bum, a loafer, with a whisky nose and no job. I wonder why on air his nose married him?" "I expect he must have axed her to, jabber."

Quite So. When the enterprising murderer isn't killing, isn't devastating villages and towns, we will very often find the lady willing to furnish full descriptions of her gowns.

FLEETING FANCIES. From the Milwaukee Sentinel. APRIL SHOWERS. Showers—heaven's teardrops—most as sweet as morning dew—

Don't you know they're bringing violets to smile and wink at you? Don't you know they're bringing garments for the valleys, hills, and trees—

That each rain drop hints of Maytime, and of Juneteenth's balmy breeze?

Showers—April showers—and they'll bring the roses sweet, And the fragrant clover blossoms in the meadows where the feet

May strolch along wandering—where nature's lilyting airs Will mingle with the perfume, driving backward all the cares.

MEN AND THINGS.

Taft and the Railroads. On his projected trip to the Southwest Secretary Taft has announced his purpose to deliver one or more speeches on the subjects of railroad-rate regulation and the Brownsville incident. It is interesting to note in this connection that at the inception of those administration measures he occupied ground much closer to that upon which his distinguished opponent, Senator Foraker, stood, and still stands, than that which the President originally occupied in the one case and continues firmly to hold in the other.

Every member of the President's Cabinet, except his Attorney General, then the Hon. William H. Moody, now an associate judge of the Supreme Court, as opposed to the Doherty-Hepburn bill, which had Mr. Roosevelt's ardent support. Secretaries Root and Taft persisted and urgedly advised the President against the bill, mainly because of its provisions for a narrow court review, which had it remained in the bill, would have made the Interstate Commerce Commission and not the Federal courts the rate-making power. Secretary Taft, having come from the Federal bench to the cabinet, advised the President that the courts would probably declare the law unconstitutional, and that the narrow court review provision remain in the bill.

After the President assented to its being stricken out, Mr. Taft favored the bill. It will be remembered, also, that the Secretary of War recommended to the President a suspension of his order summarily dismissing three companies of the Twenty-fifth Infantry until the case could be more fully investigated. This recommendation was made while in the Washington while the President was in Porto Rico en route home from Panama. Secretary Taft was in Cuba when the President ordered the dismissal of the troops. Thus, in sense, Judge Taft and Senator Foraker were for a while not very far apart on two of the most interesting policies of the administration.

A Permanent Resident. The Hon. Perry Belmont will depart from Washington in a few days, and has engaged passage for Europe May 15. He will be accompanied by Mrs. Belmont, and they will be gone until about next October. While retaining his legal residence in New York, Mr. Belmont is now a permanent resident of Washington. The new mansion he is having built in New Hampshire avenue, opposite the residence of Thomas Nelson Page, the author, will be the finest private house in the Capital. The bare building will cost more than a half million dollars, the landscape gardening and approaches will involve an expenditure of a hundred thousand or so, the furnishings will cost several hundred thousand, and thus Mr. Belmont will make an outlay exceeding a million dollars on his Washington home.

Although a very rich man, Perry Belmont affects few, if any, of the manners of the New York 49, in which he was born. He served for a number of years in the House of Representatives before he was forty, and for a time was chairman of the great Committee on Foreign Affairs. A loyal Democrat, he does not seek office for himself, though the Senate has twice offered him everything affecting his party, and shows lively concern in public affairs generally, as illustrated by his persistent efforts to have enacted a national public law regarding campaign contributions and expenditures.

Two Probable Vacancies. It begins to look as though Rhode Island will not be the only State with only one Senator at the opening of the next Congress. The legislature of Rhode Island having failed to elect, the Senate rules established in the Quay contract forbid the governor to appoint. The fight in Wisconsin over Senator Spooner's amplex appears to have reached a point indicating the likelihood of a repetition at Madison of the recent failure at Providence. What is known out there as the "Mary Anne" system has been suggested as probably opening the way for untying the deadlock, but apparently it will not work, so fierce and determined are the factionists. The "Mary Anne" system is unique. It provides that each member of the legislature shall vote his first and second choice at the same time. The second-choice votes are to be added to the first-choice votes in case the first choice does not result in a nomination.

The successful candidate is the first choice of a certain proportion of the legislators, and the second choice of any other proportion.

For the first time in many years the Senate at its last two sessions had its full quota of members, such as Hughes and Hughes? Hughes? cuts but a small figure in these letters, but in the East he peers above the horizon like a rising sun.

A Stronous Rooster. From the Kansas City Journal. It is not often that a barnyard fowl attains neighborhood popularity, but such is the case with a large Massachusetts red rooster, belonging to Charles Davis, of St. John avenue. A few weeks ago Mr. Davis was attracted to his barnyard by the whines of a half-grown setter pup he is training. He found that the dog had been driven into a corner, and was being savagely attacked by a big cock, and before he could interfere in behalf of the pup it had been pretty heavily marked by the rooster's spurs. Since that time Red, as he has come to be called, has become a neighborhood bully, and refuses to allow any dogs to come within the grounds under his rule. Curiously enough, dogs will not fight back, but actually run from his assaults. As for gamecocks, he has probably thrashed more of them than any other bird in the city.

Gov. Hughes' Great Task. From the New York Journal of Commerce. It is infinitely discreditable to the legislature of this State that a strenuous struggle should be necessary to secure the passage of such a measure as that now pending for the regulation of public service corporations and the creation of commissions to administer the law. If the corporations to be affected had an enlightened regard for their own future welfare, combined with a decent respect for public authority and the rights of the people, they would not oppose the measure, or seek to weaken it so far as the attainment of its objects is concerned.

Public Expenditure. From the New York World. President Roosevelt has great influence over Congress and writes lengthy messages, but no subject occupies less space in them or receives less emphasis than the studied policy of public economy in national expenditures.

No Alternative. From the Philadelphia Record. Next year, unless something happens, the country will have to take its choice between Bryan and third term. It has always opposed the third term and it has twice refused Bryan, but there is no other alternative in sight.

Unnecessary Trouble. From the Chattanooga Times. It seems that the railroads have not instituted a secret movement among their employees to find out whether President Roosevelt is popular or not. Such a project was not discussed \$20,000. Some railroad newspaper publishers and editors are paid more than that.

Lucky Secretary Taft. From the Toledo Blade. It is Secretary Taft's good fortune that insatiable duty, and the danger run in parallel grooves in this connection, for there is then no necessity that he discipline his ambition or wrestle with conscience. He can prosecute his work cheerfully and loyally, confident that the people are watching and approving.

Ungrateful Good-by. From the Minneapolis Tribune. April, we shall miss you so. So long, April. Especially you, who have been so kind to us. For we're all longing for you, April, in July. So long, April. So long, April. So long, April. So long, April.

JACKSON'S BIRTHPLACE.

South Carolina Paper Grudgingly Owns Up to the Truth. From the Charleston News and Courier. The ignorance of the Norfolk Landmark has been exposed by The Washington Herald. Some days ago The Herald, which knows its history, spoke of Andy Jackson as